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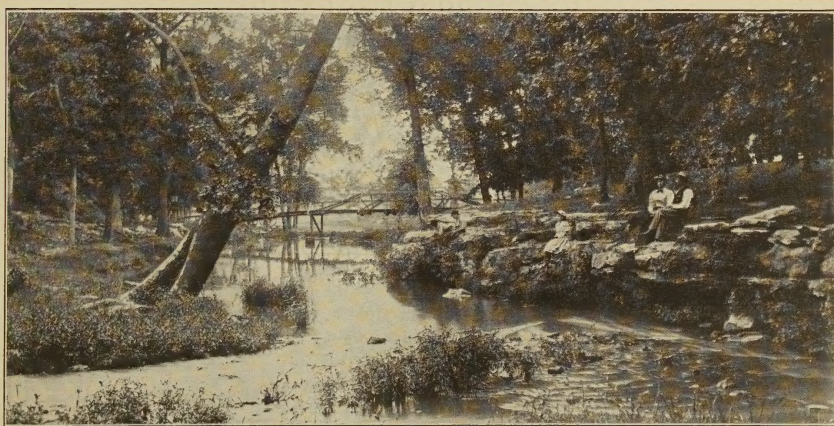


CURRENT EVENTS

AN AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL MAGAZINE

DEVOTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF

MISSOURI, KANSAS, ARKANSAS, INDIAN TER.,
LOUISIANA AND TEXAS.



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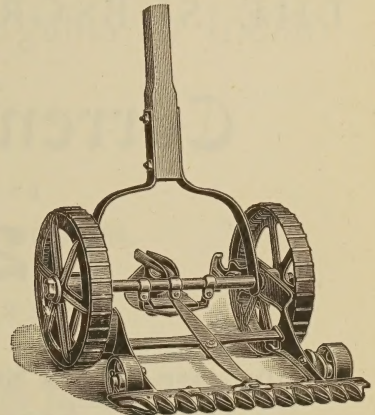
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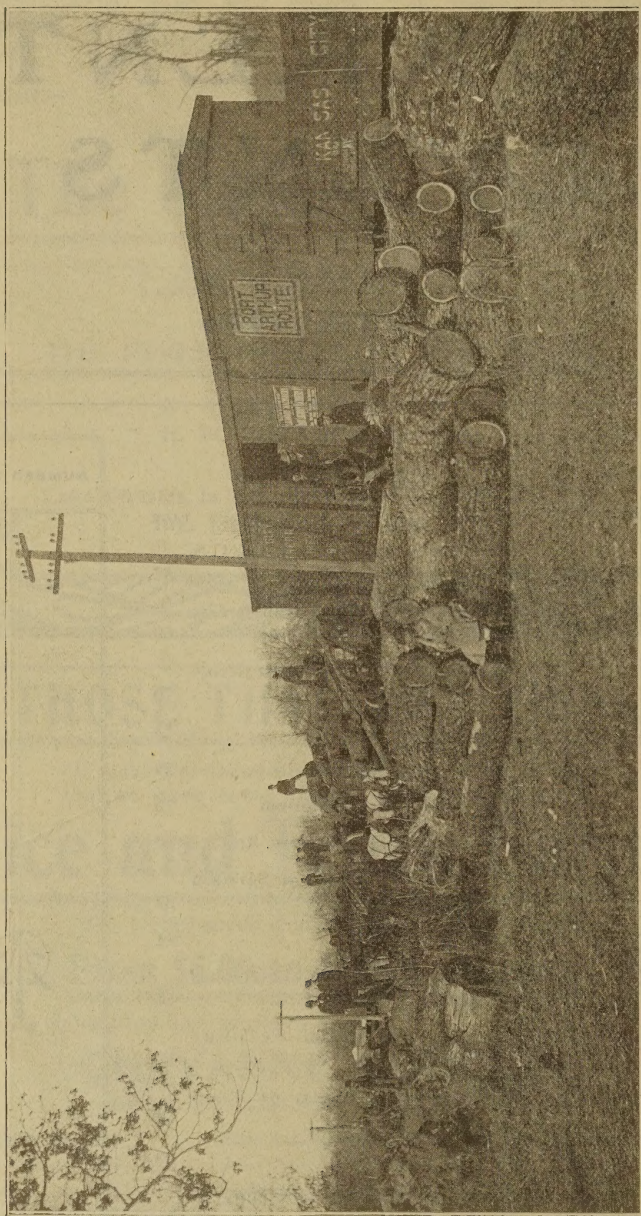
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Shipping Wahoo Timber from Marble City, L. T.

The Marble Quarries on the K. C. S. Ry.

Excluding the quarries on the Kansas City Southern Railway there are but three marble shipping states in the Union and these are Vermont, Georgia and Tennessee. The output from the quarries in these states last year exceeded in value \$4,000,000 and of this, Vermont supplied a value of \$2,000,000. The use of marble became very expensive in the more westerly states because all three sources of supply were too far away. A large proportion of the marble used in Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska come from Vermont and sells for from \$3.20 to

\$12.00 per cubic foot. The State of Minnesota last year paid the marble quarries of Georgia \$700,000 for the marble used in its state capitol building.

Now, all this territory can and will be supplied from the quarries on the Kansas City Southern Railway in the future, and not only these states, but Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas will draw their supplies from this source as well.

The marble beds are situated at Marble City, I. T., and cover a considerable scope of country. The depos-



Marble Quarry at Marble City, I. T.

it, in magnitude is only equalled by the wonderful quarries of Vermont. It has been tested during the past year by the Beaumont Marble & Supply Company of Texas, which drilled holes in eleven different places and demonstrated that the deposit of marble is 142 feet deep and of excellent quality from top to bottom. The marble occurs in five distinct colors and each color takes a high polish and is very pleasing to the eye. A chemical analysis made at the United States Arsenal at Watertown, Mass., gives the following constituents: "Silicates, iron

and alumina, 00.60; calcium carbonate, 91.74; magnesium, 7.46; calcium sulphate 00.20. The crystalline structure of this stone shows it to be marble. A test by compression shows that its ultimate strength is 14,270 pounds per square inch.

The work of developing this great deposit has been systematically begun. Four or five marble companies have already acquired holdings, though the deposit is so great that half a dozen more could open quarries to advantage.



View on Sallisaw Creek at Marble City, I. T.

The Southern Marble Company, the first company on the ground, has already set up and in operation machinery to the value of \$40,000 and has purchased additional machinery to the value of \$20,000. This installment includes boilers and engines, air compressors, derrick, channeling machines, marble saws and other appliances necessary for the handling of this stone. A side track or spur three-quarters of a mile in length is under construction, and the output can then be handled in any desired quantity. The deposit is so located that it can be quarried as economically as any first-class building stone, with the advantage that it can be cut out in blocks of any

dimensions. So uniform is this deposit that any of the ancient Egyptian monoliths or obelisks could be cut out in one single piece.

The Beaumont Marble & Supply Company of Beaumont, Texas, has secured 15 year leases upon over 600 acres of this marble and will begin active operations early in 1906. Three of the oldest stone companies in Missouri have also acquired valuable holdings, and will begin operations during the present year. As this marble contains a very large percentage of carbonate of lime the waste material from the quarries can be converted into a most excellent quality of lime for building purposes, and as cheap

fuel is very convenient, it is contemplated to erect at an early date one of the largest lime burning plants at this point.

The work already done and in prospect, as well as the money invested in the development of the marble industry, has during the past year caused the growth of a vigorous young town known as Marble City. During 1905 one hundred and seventy-five new people located here. Some fifty new dwellings were built and five new stores, a saw mill, a cotton gin and a grist mill were located and opened up for business. During the first three months of 1906 two hundred additional

people have settled in the town. Skilled workmen for the quarries are constantly arriving and when the companies already organized are in full operation from 500 to 700 men will be constantly employed at the quarries. Seven hundred men permanently employed would mean about 500 families of at least five to the family or about 2,500 people in all. The outlook for the growth of the quarries is very promising and it is the confident belief of those who have invested their means in the development of this industry, that the greatest marble quarries in the United States will be situated at Marble City, I. T.

Improvements on the Kansas City Southern Ry.

The management of the Kansas City Southern Railway Company has cut out for itself a vast amount of work to be accomplished during the present year and a good beginning in the improvement of its roadway and equipment has already been made. Ballasting has been done at many points along the line, but the greater part of this work is now being done on the Southern division, where it will be pushed to the uttermost until the entire division, from Mena, Ark., to Port Arthur, Texas, has been ballasted. Approximately one hundred and twenty-two miles have been relaid with 80 pound steel and ninety-three miles of track have been relaid with 85 pound steel rail, which was contracted for last fall. During March, 1906, two hundred and eighty miles of 85 pound steel rail will be delivered. The work of relaying that many miles of track will be commenced and carried to completion. About two hundred and seventy miles of the road will be fenced during the present year. Increased track facilities for Kansas City, Mo., Pittsburg, Kas., Mena and Texarkana, Shreveport, Beaumont and Port Arthur are in contemplation.

The equipment has already been largely increased, 1,000 new box cars of 80,000 pounds capacity, 100 new stock cars of 60,000 pounds capacity, 4 new baggage cars, 5 new coaches, 9 new chair cars, 2 combination cars, 200 National dump cars and 100 Rodgers ballast cars having already been received. In addition to these there have been added to the equipment, twelve new consolidation freight engines and eight 6 wheel switch engines. There have been contracted for, and are to be delivered as early as practicable, fifteen additional consolidation freight engines, two hundred National dump cars, one hundred tank cars and ten cabooses. Other improvements of various kinds are under consideration and it is thought that before the close of 1906 the Kansas City Southern Railway will be splendidly ballasted and equipped and in most excellent condition to speedily and economically handle the already enormous but rapidly increasing traffic originating on its line. The very rapid industrial development of the country contiguous to the line has made necessary this increase of its transportation facilities.

The Organ Grinder of Mescalero.

F. E. ROESLER.

On one of my several trips through the Mescalero Apache reservation, in the White Mountains of New Mexico, I had occasion to pass through Nogal (Walnut) Canon, one of the many beautiful mountain passes so numerous in this region. In this canon are a number of fine farms cultivated by Mescalero Apaches, which, so far as good cultivation and general neatness are concerned, compare very favorably with those of the American farmers in the vicinity.

Near the head of the canon and on one of these farms is a large fine spring and this afforded a good stopping place for lunch. While engaged in masticating the tough ham sandwiches brought up from Alamogordo, and the cool crisp atmosphere of the mountains gives one an excellent appetite, there floated over to us from the farm house some three hundred feet away, the squeaky, wheezy strains of an organ. The short, jerky shrieks that issued from this instrument of torture, assembled themselves into a reminder of "Norma," "Money Musk," "Garry Owen," "St. Patrick's Day," "Dixie," "Mulligan Guards" and other tunes popular forty years or more ago. Several notes were missing in each tune and it did not take my companion or myself long to figure out that this organ was being worked by a crank and not by ten fingers and a pedal.

After the sandwiches had been disposed of, we walked over to the adobe house, from which the sounds came, in order to ascertain how this old time hand organ ever got into Nogal Canon. Upon our approach an old Apache Indian came to the door and we soon found that our Spanish was too weak in the back to be of much service in the search for information. This difficulty was however soon overcome, for the old man called out a young chap, about eighteen years old, who politely enquired as to what he could do for us.

Upon stating that we wished to see the organ, it was brought out to us

for inspection. The sight of the black square box with its brass trimmings and its goose neck crank, recalled the early days of my childhood, and under the impulse of the moment, I asked: "Where is the monkey?" The question was promptly interpreted. The old Apache smiled. "The little furry brown man? Oh, he died long ago. The dark man with the big moustache, and beard who came with him and who carried this singing box, ran away many years ago." After asking many questions, all interpreted by the young man, who spoke an excellent English, acquired at the reservation school, we elicited the following information concerning the old hand organ. The story is essentially in the words of the old man as they were translated to us:

"Long before the Santa Fe Railroad was built along the Rio Grande, and while there was still a garrison at Fort Selden, I think a year or so after the close of the white men's war, a raiding party of Mescaleros, who were returning from a horse stealing expedition and crossing the Jornada del Muerto ran down the man who first carried this singing box. Seeing that he was not armed, the bravos concluded to catch him alive. As they rode down upon him, he suddenly ceased running, rested his singing box upon a stick and turned the handle on it with all his might. A few arrows had stuck in the box which he had carried on his back, and a little dog which accompanied him, was shot to death with arrows. On the ground before the stranger and before the singing box danced the man's little brother, who before that had been riding on the man's shoulder. After a little time he went to each of the bravos holding out a little tin cup and then jumped on the singing box.

"The bravos, who expected to find much valuable plunder in this box, were dumbfounded when they heard the songs coming from it and stood in a circle with their mouths wide open,

while their horses pranced and cocked their ears. Then they dismounted, began to dance and yell and brandish their clubs around the stranger's head, who while dodging as much as possible, kept on turning the handle with desperate energy. After a time they wearied of this sport and sat down upon the ground to deliberate upon the matter before them. The wonder box they must certainly have and if they could make it sing, as did the stranger, they could easily kill him and his little brother and take it with them. The stranger was wise in his way, for when one of the bravos took the box from him and turned the handle for a long time, it would not sing for him at all. The hermano chiquita, the stranger's little brother, then with one bound jumped on the box, pulled the eagle feathers from the bravos' head, and began to pull his hair and scratch his face. From the singing box he jumped on his head and clawed at his eyes. The bravo could not stand it long. He managed to brush the little brother from his head, but stumbled over another bravo who was lying down and fell on his back with the singing box on top of him. The little brother was not hurt, but the bravo was badly bruised. After another deliberation the stranger was compelled to mount a horse and take his singing box and his little brother with him to the camp in the Sacramento Mountains.

"Magoosh, the medicine man, told the tribe that this strange man was neither a Mexican nor an American, but one who had come across the waters; that there was good medicine in his box and that it would be dangerous to harm him and so the stranger remained with the Mescaleros for longer than three years. He helped to make much good medicine in the lodge and his box was made to sing at all the tribal dances.

"The best dancer among all the Mescaleros, was the stranger's little brother, who was also very expert in gathering pinon nuts, and spent much of his time in the big pine trees, quarrelling and rollicking with the squirrels. The children were extremely fond of him, as he entered into all their games and often went hunting rabbits

with them and sometimes he would catch one and hold him long enough for the children to secure him. They made for him all sorts of things to wear and saw to it that he was properly dressed and had a warm place to sleep. They made for him a bow, quiver and arrows and taught him how to ride a dog, and when there was a sham battle or a dance among the children he was always in the thick of it. He was welcome in every teepee and always knew where to look for the nuts and the berries. As long as the little brother was with the tribe everything went well.

"One day there was a great tribal dance among the elders and all of them drank much tiswin. The little brother was high up in a pine tree with his bow and shot a little arrow which struck Lame Bear in the eye. Being drunk with tiswin and infuriated with pain, he seized his gun and before any one could prevent it, he shot the little brother, who fell out of the tree to the ground. The stranger gripped Lame Bear by the throat and for quite a time the two men rolled over and over, tearing each other's hair and beating each other's faces until they were separated. The stranger laid with his face in the grass and wailed for his little brother and all the children wailed for three days, as is the custom among the Apaches when a friend or a relative has died. The little brother was buried under a pinion tree.

"The medicine men in the council that followed said that the little brother was not a man but the representative of a good spirit, that to slay him was murder and not self-defense; that the killing of the little brother was very bad medicine and would bring much evil and that the soldiers would come and defeat the Mescaleros in the next battle and this was so. The tribe must disavow the act and openly show its disapproval to the unseen spirits. Lame Bear was tied to a tree and received one cut with a thorny tornillo switch from every member of the tribe for the evil he had done.

"After this whenever the stranger made medicine with his singing box, the tears would run out of his eyes, and he mourned for his little brother many months. He learned the tongue

of the Mescaleros, wore the tribal clothing and became one of the tribe. Every one liked him and he was a welcome guest at all of the teepees.

"One day the scouts brought in the news that the black soldiers with sheeps wool on their heads were in pursuit of a body of bravos who were heading for Escondido Canon. The bravos gained the canon and were there joined by other bravos and a stand against the soldiers was made. As strong medicine was needed the stranger puts his singing box on a horse and went with the medicine man to the canon. The black soldiers were decoyed to a narrow shelf-like trail, where many of them were killed by the stones and boulders thrown upon them, but another party of soldiers found another way, and the bravos who had lost many of their brothers retreated, decoyed the soldiers as far away from the Mescalero Camp as possible, scattered and found their way to camp one by one.

"The stranger never returned to camp. His singing box had a great

hole through it, when the medicine man brought it back from the canon, and he repaired it as it is now. At a later time the medicine man was killed. The singing box passed from one teepee to another, was lost and won many times in gambling games and now it is here. My father gave two sheep and a goat for it. Everything is different now. Our warriors are all farmers now, but this old singing box often reminds me of the times when I was young and our people had these mountains to themselves."

Some months later I had business in Las Cruces and it occurred to me to enquire about the organ grinder. One of the oldest merchants remembered that about 1870, some thirty years ago, a dirty disheveled Italian, clad in Apache duds had come into town by way of Tularosa and the Sand hills, and that while begging his way to civilization, he had complained: "Male-detto Apache, dey killa da monk, sold-atesca negro dey busta da organo, hell, me goa back Italia, poco tiempo."



Sugar Cane Field near Atlanta, Texas.

Cass County, Texas.

This county is situated in North-eastern Texas, bordering on the state lines of Arkansas and Louisiana. It has an area of 964 square miles and a population of thirty thousand. The county was organized in 1846 and is largely populated with native Texans and people from the Southern states and a considerable percentage of people from the Northern, Eastern and Western states.

The surface of the county is gently undulating in the northern and north-western part, becoming more level as the eastern and southeastern boundaries are approached. It is a wooded county, much of it still being covered with valuable pine timber. About thirty per cent of the area is in cultivation. It is exceptionally well watered, being bountifully supplied with

wells, springs, branches, creeks and lakes. Water can be had by digging from twenty to thirty feet, fine clear running springs and branches in every direction. As a rule it is pure, clear, freestone water, good for all purposes.

The climate is agreeable all year round, the annual mean temperature being about 65 degrees. The heat of summer is greatly tempered by fine breezes, and the cold of the Northern winter is absent being greatly modified by the latitude and the protection of the forests. The mean annual rainfall is about 47 inches. The timber growth of the county consists of the different varieties of oak, black and sweet gum, elm, pine, hickory and other timbers. It affords splendid opportunities for wood workers, furniture, box and crate factories, etc.



A fine country for raising hogs.

Public health is good. The county is well drained and there are no local causes for disease. The mortality rate is very low.

There is considerable variety in the soils. Most of the upland soils are gray

or red sandy underlaid with a clay sub-soil—fertile as a rule and very well suited for the cultivation of fruits and vegetables. All the soils contain more or less iron, imparting to the fruit, the rich color and delicious flavor which



Gathering Tomatoes.

have made fruit from East Texas popular wherever offered. The upland soils produce under proper cultivation in addition to fruits and commercial truck, from twenty to thirty bushels of corn per acre, one-half to one bale of cotton, twenty to thirty bushels of

peas, twenty to thirty bushels of oats, and forage crops of all kinds in abundance. The natural pasturage is excellent. The river and creek bottoms are exceptionally fertile, as fifty bushels of corn, a bale of cotton and from 250 to 500 gallons of ribbon cane



A Truck Farmers' Picnic Party.

syrup can be readily produced per acre. These bottom lands are unexcelled for fall gardening. Fall crops of cabbage and Irish potatoes grow to great perfection, the average production of fall potatoes being one hundred and fifty bushels per acre. The crop generally sells readily for one dollar per bushel in the spring for seed.

Cass County has a well organized and effective Fruit and Truck Growers' Association, and the business of growing fruit and truck commercially has been brought to a basis upon which it is profitable. The headquarters of the association are at Atlanta, Tex., and the annual shipments of potatoes run be-

tween 300 and 400 car loads and many cars of peaches, tomatoes, berries and other truck, all of which is paid for before the cars are moved. All sales are made through a committee, who keep posted on the condition of the market, current prices and use the wires freely. Under the auspices of the association, the farmers of Cass County have become progressive and more scientific in their modes of farming. They have learned what the markets want and how the demand should be met and they have learned to produce two and three crops on the same soil on which they formerly made only one. From raising a mortgaged cotton crop, they



A Tobacco Field.

have found the way to make from \$25 to \$150 per acre at truck farming, the money paid on the barrel head in May and June. With a majority of the farmers the cotton crop mortgage and the receipted merchandise account at the first of January are a thing of the past. They pay as they go and the value of their farms has been multiplied by ten since they have made farming pay as it does now. The Cass County Fruit and Truck Growers' Association can give information if addressed at Atlanta, Tex.

Land values have doubled in Cass County during the last five years. Land titles are good and improved lands can be had at prices ranging from

\$10 to \$25 according to locality and improvements. The unimproved lands vary in price from \$5 to \$10 and are usually sold on reasonable terms. The roads in the county are fairly good and are being constantly improved.

The transportation facilities consist of the Kansas City Southern Railway running north and south through the eastern part of the county. The Texas & Pacific Railway, the Cotton Belt Ry. running through the northwestern portion, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas running through the southwestern part and the T. A. & L. R. R. running east and west. The freight rates are very satisfactory.

There are about twenty-five towns in Cass County. Linden, the county seat, is an inland town of about 500 inhabitants, distant about nine miles from a railroad. Atlanta is the principal market town and has about 2,500 inhabitants. It has a bank, two newspapers, a canning factory, long distance telephone system, a first-class nursery, one of the best schools in the state and a considerable number of wide-awake business men.

Bloomburg, on the Kansas City Southern Railway, is connected by a short line railroad, built by the people of Atlanta, with that town. It is a steadily growing place of about 500

inhabitants and ships large quantities of cotton, live stock, lumber, and commercial truck of various kinds.

Cass County has one hundred and forty school communities, each owning a good commodious school building, a great many of them neatly furnished. The county has a school fund of \$55,000 invested, the interest of which used in connection with the school moneys raised by taxation provides annually a snug fund available for educational purposes. A man with two or three children receives more in the education of his children than he pays by way of taxes.

The Rotation of Crops.

The ultimate success or failure of the farm as a profit making business proposition, depends upon the increase or at least on the maintenance of its fertility during a series of years. Its productiveness depends, first, upon the tillage devoted to it, the fertilizing of the land either by the application of manure or the rotation of the crops and lastly in the proper selection of seeds. Another important consideration is the having of an adequate water supply either naturally or artificially supplied. In this article the rotation of crops as a means to fertilization are under consideration.

Systematic rotation of crops is rarely practiced in newly settled localities. The first generation of settlers generally robs the land and moves to newer lands. For a time no attempt is made to maintain or increase its fertility, but the second generation finds no new lands to exploit and before long is compelled to study the problems of soil regeneration or find farming an unprofitable business.

As far as the memory of man goes back, it has been the practice in most countries to allow the land to lie fallow in alternate seasons. It was observed early in the day, that the fertility of the land was improved by allowing a crop of weeds to grow, mature,

die and become incorporated with the soil. Later on, it was found that the same end could be attained at less cost and loss of time, by changing the crops, in short rotating crops on the land. It was also observed that certain families of plants, such as the clover, vetches, peas, in short leguminous plants had a distinct fertilizing effect and quite recently it was discovered that owing to the action of certain bacteria which infest the roots of leguminous plants, nitrogen was extracted from the air and incorporated with the soil. These bacteria have since been isolated and are now produced commercially.

The value of crop rotation is fully appreciated, though there is much diversion of opinion as to its application, and as a matter of fact no hard and fast rule can be laid down, the climatic conditions of the various sections of county demanding different treatment. Experimental work has been carried on at Rothamstead, England, perhaps longer than any where else. Wheat grown on the same land for sixty-two consecutive years, yielded at the end of that time only about one-fourth as much per acre, as wheat grown on similar land for fifty-two years as part of a four-course crop rotation. The land was not artificial-

ly fertilized in either case. The American wheat fields have moved farther west each year. This crop, being grown continuously on the same soil has been almost entirely abandoned in many sections formerly famous for their wheat production. In Louisiana it was found as a result of eleven years work with a three course rotation (first year corn, second year oats, followed by cowpeas, third year cotton), that the yield increased from twelve to twenty-five per cent, even without the application of manures. In another part of the same experiment, manure was applied and the general increase in yield was four hundred to five hundred per cent. Plain crop rotation in itself is capable of increasing the yield of a crop, but the greatest increase is to be expected by a system of rotation and manuring. A multitude of theories concerning the rotation of crops have been advanced from time to time, which boiled down, lead to the following conclusions.

The cultivation of one crop tends to correct the detrimental effect of another crop grown on the same land. The continuous cultivation of one crop on the same land results more or less in the injury of the soil; a rotation of crops tends to overcome and eliminate the bad effects of one crop cultivation.

A judicious selection of crops grown on the same land makes it possible to incorporate in the soil different plant food material through the decay of the parts of a crop left in the ground and plowed under. The greatest benefit comes from the incorporation of nitrogen compounds through the cultivation of leguminous plants, which have the power, by means of certain bacteria contained in the roots nodules, of fixing the free atmospheric nitrogen in the soil, where it can be utilized by another crop which needs nitrogen but is unable to extract it from the air. As nitrogen is one of the most useful, most expensive and most easily lost of the plant food elements which the farmer must buy, the usefulness of the leguminous crops as fertilizers is self evident. It is a fact, that the early crop rotation, carried on before a rational explanation of their effects

could be given, carried on the list a legume of some kind. The effect was readily noted though the cause was for a long time unknown.

Some plants root deeper than others and utilize what plant food there is in the subsoil, also loosening up and nourishing the same in the decay of the roots. The legumes such as alfalfa, cowpeas, beans, lupines, etc., owing to their deep rooting habits extract more plant food from the subsoil than do the cereals. Through their cultivation the humus is carried deeper into the soil.

Humus, the product of the decay of organic matter increases the plant food and has much to do with the texture of the soil, making loose sandy soils more firm and clayey sticky soils more friable. Grass and clover crops in rotation supply much humus. Green manuring is one of the ways of adding humus where badly needed, though the turning under of roots and stubble is ordinarily sufficient. A well considered plan of crop rotation will make possible large savings in concentrated or chemical fertilizers, and on the other hand utilizes such fertilizers to greater advantage than is possible in a continuous crop.

In Europe the magnitude of the farmers manure heap is regarded as an indication of his thrift and wealth. A proper crop rotation provides for the making of farm manures, as the forage crop grown should be fed to live stock on the farm. It is more profitable as a rule to market the live stock than to market the hay and grain. In maintaining the fertility of the farm the manure retained is a distinct profit.

Certain weeds follow certain crops or grow with them on the same field. A change from one crop to another, having a different period of growth and maturity, enables the farmer to get rid of a weed crop, which otherwise could not be eliminated. A crop rotation should not be considered a good one unless it provides for eliminating the weeds. The same applies to insect pests and crop diseases. There are no insects which infest all crops nor are all plants subject to the same diseases. A short and sharp rotation of crops will frequently eliminate pests

and diseases which couldn't possibly be reached when the same crops is grown on the land year after year.

The nature of the rotation of crops depends in all cases on local conditions and considerations. It must be in accord with the farmer's business—If he is a dairy man or stock farmer, or a grain farmer, or a cotton grower, his arrangements must meet the demands of each specialty. It must adapt itself to the soil and its peculiarities. Frequently the purpose is to recuperate worn out and barren lands. In such cases the production of leguminous crops to make humus is necessary. The question, whether or not manure can be acquired cheaply and in abundance, or whether or not it can be made on the place, has more or less to do with the arrangement of the rotation. What is important and essential in one climate is not necessarily the proper thing under different conditions. The rotation must be planned with reference to the species of plants, which, in their effect on the soil will best serve the succeeding crop. Every farmer has learned in his experience that a certain condition of soil will result from the growth of certain crops. Buckwheat, for instance, has a distinct effect on hardpan soils, leaving them loose and mellow, and is frequently sown where this effect is desired.

To successfully carry out a rotation plan covering a series of years, the farm must be divided into fields of equal size so that every crop in the plan is grown on some part of the farm every year. Such crops as do not occupy the land for a series of years can be used as parts of a rotation. In the western irrigated regions alfalfa is sometimes used in rotation, usually after the third year, when the land is planted to sugar beet, or grain. Cotton grown continuously on the same land eventually exhausts the soil, but in the last decade it has been made to alternate with grain, corn and cowpeas. Usually a rotation contains at least one "money crop" that finds a ready market, a hay crop and a leguminous crop. The leguminous rotation crops used in the United States are red clover in the northern states and cowpeas in the

southern, where they are usually sown as the corn crop matures. They make humus and add nitrogen to the soil. Where the season is long enough a clover crop is frequently sown after cultivation is completed, this crop being ploughed under during the following spring. Crimson clover, vetches, peas, rye, buckwheat, rape or wheat or barley are used for this purpose.

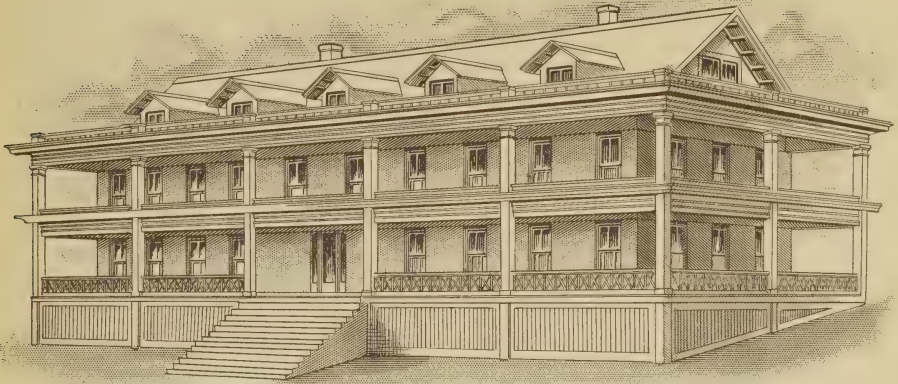
A rotation much used in Ohio, is the Terry rotation, a three years' course: 1 clover, 2 potatoes, 3 winter wheat. It repeats clover every third year and keeps the land in good fertility.

The Cornell University course: 1 wheat with 8 to 10 tons of manure per acre, yielding 30 to 40 bushels, 2, clover and timothy one year mown twice, yielding up to 5½ tons per acre; 3 corn, manured, cut for silage, yielding 8 to 10 tons per acre; 4, oats, 40 to 50 bushels per acre.

A rotation for weedy land: 1, sod crop, 2, corn, 3, potatoes or other clean tilled crop, 4 oats or barley.

A common rotation in corn producing states, 1, 2, corn, 3, wheat or oats, 4, 5, 6 timothy and clover. 1 corn, 2 oats, 3 wheat, 4, 5 timothy and clover. In potato and stock raising regions of New England 1, potato, 2, 3, corn, 4, 5, 6, clover and grass. In grain and sugar beet regions: 1 sugar beet, 2 barley, 3 clover, 4 wheat. In irrigated beet regions: 1, 2, 3 alfalfa, 4, 5 sugar beet, 6 alfalfa. In the northern states, where live stock is to be considered: 1 silage corn, 2 oats, 3 wheat, 4 clover. In southern states, Sept. or Oct., wheat or oats pastured all winter, cut at end of April for hay, same season corn and in July or August cowpeas or peanuts.

In the northern states owing to the shorter growing season longer courses of rotation are apparently necessary as for at least one-third and sometimes one-half the year the land is idle. Further south the rotations can follow each other more rapidly. Worn out land can be reclaimed in less time because the longer growing season will produce more bulk to humus producing plants. Wherever rotation, in which the cultivation of a legume was an integral factor has been applied in the South the results have been highly satisfactory.



The Mena Sanatorium.

The Mena, Ark., Sanatorium.

The Commercial Club of Mena accomplished a splendid piece of work when they secured fifteen acres of ground in and adjoining the city as a site for the Mena Sanatorium and Hospital. Whether they did it knowingly or not, they laid the foundation for a health resort in the future equal in importance to Hot Springs in Central Arkansas. The country round about Mena is full of medicinal springs well known and visited on account of their health-giving properties for several generations. The location and altitude of Mena, 1,600 feet above sea level and convenient to altitudes a thousand feet higher made it an ideal point for placing an institution of this kind.

The building of the Mena Sanatorium has been begun and the excavation of the foundation is in progress. The main building will cover an area of 52 by 115 feet and will be three stories high. The first story will be constructed of artificial stone and the others of white brick, made at Fort Smith. The roof will be covered with Arkansas slate. Surrounding the building on all sides will be great wide shady galleries, from which a bird's-eye view of the city may be had.

The sanatorium will have sixty rooms available for the use of patients, equipped with baths, electric

lights, steam heat and modern appliances of every kind, including electric elevators, electric baths, etc. There will be several parlors, library and several large dining rooms. The meals served will be as in a first-class hotel and every convenience incident to a hotel of the first-class will be at the pleasure of the patient or the guest.

The grounds surrounding the sanatorium will be laid out in a great park in which will be built in suitable locations a number of cottages which will be available for the use of summer and winter tourists who may desire to remain at Mena for some time. The physicians of Mena will have charge of the sanatorium. Among the plans in contemplation is the building of small hotels at the various medicinal springs in the vicinity of Mena so as to make these springs pleasant abiding places.

The city of Mena is one of the most prosperous business points in western Arkansas, and Polk County of which it is the county seat is a rapidly growing section of country. The assessors' returns show a valuation of \$2,574,125 for 1904, and a valuation of \$3,462,359 for 1905—an increase of \$888,234 in one year, during which the number of acres in farms increased from 250,894 acres to 370,643 acres, an increase in the cultivated area of 119,749 acres. The values of the farms increased from

\$953,337 in 1904 to \$1,459,580 in 1905—an increase of \$506,257. The population of Polk County in 1890 was 9,283; in 1900 was 18,352 an increase of 9,069 or 97.69 per cent, whereas the increase in the state was only 16.25 per cent. With all this increase Polk County still has 205,000 acres of government land still subject to homestead entry.

Now this increased population and wealth is not to the detriment of Mena, the county seat. The little city is now nine years old, has fully six thousand inhabitants and it is expanding in a very substantial manner. It is the trading point for a large scope of country, only half of which, the part in Arkansas is rapidly developing. When the other half, the part in the Indian Territory, gets its land titles in shape to admit of rapid settlement, things will buzz at Mena. As it is now, vast resources in the form of lumber, slate, mineral and fine agricultural lands are being made available through the construction of a new railroad heading for Hot Springs.

During the year 1905 the increase of population in Mena was 500 and forty new dwellings valued at \$20,000 were erected, \$50,000 was expended on ten

new business buildings, \$6,000 for a new warehouse, \$5,000 each for a new school and a church. Most of the streets were graded and macadamized and several miles of concrete sidewalk built. A new bank with capital of \$100,000 was opened and several new mercantile establishments started in business. The monthly pay roll of Mena derived from the railway shops, saw mills and other industrial enterprises is about \$30,000.

Mena has a first-class telephone service, an electric light plant, a thirty ton ice plant, one of the best gravity water work systems in the south, several large planing mills in town and many saw mills in the adjacent country, two wholesale grocery houses, one daily and three weekly newspapers and a large number of retail houses representing all lines of business. The gross annual business of Mena, including its mercantile, banking and manufacturing establishments, for 1905 is estimated at \$1,651,000. The public schools of Mena have an enrollment of 1,000 pupils. During the first two months in 1906 extra rapid growth has been made, and more new buildings have probably been contracted for than were erected during the entire preceding year.

Attractions of Scott County, Ark.

Scott County is the second county south of the Arkansas river bordering on the Indian Territory, extending eastward to Yell county and southward to Polk county. It is traversed by Arkansas Western Railway, connecting with the Kansas City Southern Railway at Heavener, I. T., four or five miles west of the Arkansas state line. Several ranges of high hills or mountains run through the county, dividing its one thousand square miles into several large valleys through which flow the Fourche, La Fave, Poteau rivers and Petit, Jean and Dutch creeks. Much of the country is broken and hilly, varying in altitude from 600 to 2,600 feet. The greater part of the

county is covered with a sandy loam underlaid with a clay subsoil. The very large acreage of valley lands is very fertile, the larger bodies being on the streams named. Smaller areas of rich bottom lands are found on all the smaller streams which are so numerous in the county.

The bottom lands produce with fair cultivation, from three-fourth to one and one-fourth bales of cotton, from forty to seventy-five bushels of corn, and from ten to twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre, to say nothing of the various other crops which can be grown in abundance. The uplands with the same degree of cultivation, produce from fifteen to forty bushels

of corn, from one-fourth to one bale of cotton and from eight to fifteen bushels of wheat per acre without the aid of fertilizers.

Scott County will compare favorably with any other section of country in the production of grapes, apples, peaches, plums, berries, pears, potatoes and all varieties of vegetables. Commercial orchards and truck gardens can be maintained as profitably here as elsewhere. Apples are grown on the high lands and more hilly parts of the county. They are good as to size, flavor, color and quality, and yield as abundantly as they do in any of the famous apple districts of Arkansas. Much of the government homestead land now being settled upon is being planted in commercial apple orchards. The new mountain orchards already yielding fruit are bringing the owners such handsome profits with so little outlay that many of the older generation of settlers are endeavoring to follow a good example. The possibilities in the development of a great fruit growing industry are very promising.

Another source of revenue in Scott County is the raising of live stock. The mountain lands afford most excellent range for live stock. The growth of the native grasses is very luxuriant and can be greatly increased by thinning out the timber, as shown in lands that have been cut over. Owing to the short and mild winters the open pasturage lasts from nine to ten months in the year, and cattle, hogs and other stock are frequently carried through the winter season with very little feed and often no shelter. Forage can be produced very cheaply and in the greatest abundance and live stock can be raised and sent to market cheaper in Scott County than in any northern state.

The whole of Scott County was originally heavily timbered with the exception of a few small prairies. Good merchantable yellow pine is abundant in some sections of the county and is being milled. Post oak, red oak interspersed more or less with hickory, white oak, gum sycamore, cedar and scattering walnut timber are found in nearly all parts of the county. Much of this timber is useful for making ties, mine timbers, boxes, handles etc.

The mineral resources are as yet undeveloped, but coal of the finest quality for commercial purposes and in great quantities has long been known to exist in the northern and western parts of the county. Since the construction of the Arkansas Western Railroad extensive mines have been opened up at Coaldale. Iron and zinc exist in different parts of the county, but up to the present time nothing has been done in the way of developing them.

The rainfall is about fifty inches per annum and well distributed, and fine springs, and small streams of the purest water abound in all parts of the county. Public health is exceptionally good, there being no local cause for disease.

Lands in Scott County as a rule are cheap, for the reason that the county has only very recently been provided with quick and easy railway transportation. About one hundred thousand acres are yet vacant government land subject to entry under the homestead laws of the United States. The remainder of the land has passed into private hands and about half of this has been improved.

The county is at present divided into seventy-six school districts, in each of which public schools are maintained from three to nine months each year.

Waldron, population 1,500, the present terminus of the Arkansas Western Railroad is the county seat. It is situated in a good farming, fruit growing, stockraising, timber and coal region and is a growing, prosperous town. It is about 700 feet above sea level and is substantially built, some twenty-five of its buildings being two story brick and stone structures. It has four churches and one of the best high schools in western Arkansas. During 1905 one hundred people have settled in the town. Twenty new dwellings and two new business houses were erected at a cost of \$12,000. Among the public buildings are a school house costing \$9,000 and a court house costing \$8,000. Also a ware house costing \$2,000. The monthly pay roll of Waldron is \$30,000, and the daily bank deposits \$8,000. About fifty families settled in the adjacent country and

about twenty new farms were opened, though about forty farms were purchased by the new-comers. The total acreage in cultivation within five miles of Waldron is 4,000 acres devoted to corn, cotton, small grain, commercial truck, fruit and hay. The shipments from Waldron amount to about 2,000 cars of lumber, 5,000 bales of cotton, considerable live stock and large shipments of poultry and eggs. The in-

crease over the preceding year has been about fifty per cent.

Any one seeking a good location for a farm at very moderate figures, or for a growing town in which to establish a business of any kind will not go amiss by visiting Waldron. A brickyard, laundry, wholesale flour and feed store, electric light plant, ice factory, creamery or cannery could do well there.

The Summer Season at Siloam Springs, Ark.

The preliminaries for the building of a fine, big summer hotel at Siloam Springs have been finally concluded. It will cost approximately \$50,000 and will be up-to-date in all its appointments. It will be an ideal family resort set in the middle of a big shaded plot of ground, with smooth lawns and flower beds, where the older folks can play lawn tennis, etc., and the small fry can roll in the grass, muss up their clothes, sit in the swings or amuse themselves otherwise. In addition to parlors, dining rooms and the broad shady verandas surrounding the hotel, there will be a hundred rooms, more or less, nicely furnished, so that the stranger from afar will not have to worry about finding accommodations. It will be a two-story brick and stone building, convenient to the several groups of springs, the several small parks and the proposed new natatorium and swimming pool to be built sometime during the present year. The older hotels will still be in business and private house accommodations can be had as heretofore. Siloam Springs has been a favorite summer resort for many years; the new hotel will add greatly to the comfort of the thousands who will visit it in the future.

Siloam Springs is a very home-like place. Nearly every resident owns his own home and lives in solid comfort. The climate is nearly perfect, the water of the numerous springs is pure and healthful, the surroundings pleas-

ant in every way and living is cheap. Originally the whole townsite was covered with forest trees. Many of these were cut out to make room for the dwellings, business houses and streets, and many were replaced by ornamental trees and shrubbery, but enough of them remained, to give the little city of four thousand people a park-like appearance from any point of view. The homes and highways are not only shaded with tall and stately trees, but the town has three or four of the prettiest forest parks in the state. The two principal springs are situated in one of these parks. Most of the dwellings have fine lawns and many of them beautiful flower gardens.

The natural scenery in and about Siloam Springs is attractive in many ways. Through the center of town flows a small clear stream known as Sager Creek. On the one side the stream has steep bluffs from sixty to one hundred feet in height, out of which issue some twenty or more springs, the most picturesque of these being the Twin Springs. The stream is bordered by shaded gravel walks, bridged in many places and at one place has a stone dam thrown across it forming a lake large enough for boating, bathing and fishing.

The roads leading out of Siloam Springs are in good condition, and afford fine facilities for carriage, bicycle and automobile travel. The adjacent country is rolling and timbered and

most drives are well shaded. A jaunt, a few miles out brings to view a succession of neat farms, orchards and berry patches, ending either at the famous Dripping Springs, one of the wildest and prettiest glens in the Ozark region, or at the picturesque Illinois River or Flint Creek, where the fishing is extra good and mosquitoes don't bite or even sing.

Chemical analysis of the waters of the different springs does not show any particular medicinal properties except that they are pure. The purity of the waters, combined with the fine climate, the abundance of fruits and vegetable in the diet and the more active outdoor life one leads during a vacation have effected many cures. Rheumatism and kidney troubles yield readily to these waters. Diseases of the stomach, asthma and bronchial diseases are cured in many cases and many hundreds of cures have been certified to.

Siloam Springs is 229 miles south of Kansas City and its altitude above sea level 1,163 feet at the railroad station and over 1,200 in other parts of the town. Its principal sources of income are general farming, raising of high-grade live stock, particularly horses and mules, apple, peach and berry growing, poultry and eggs and local manufactures. It is a rapidly growing little city, expending annually from \$60,000 to \$90,000 for new buildings, improved streets, etc. Since 1902 the expenditures in this direction have exceeded \$115,000 per annum.

During 1905 the investments in new buildings amounted to \$118,000, about \$56,000 of which went into new dwellings. The municipality expended \$12,750 for new sidewalks, street work, electric lights and bridges. The real estate transactions amounted to \$220,290. The railroad freight receipts during 1905 amounted to 751 cars, 121 cars more than in the preceding year, and the export from Siloam Springs amounted to 395 cars, 58 cars more

than in the preceding year, the gross charges amounting to \$64,343.11. The postal business amounts to \$4,944.05. The jobbing trade of Siloam Springs, consisting of local manufactures and merchandise shipped to other points amounted to \$130,156. The poultry and egg shipments amounted to over \$125,000, about \$100,000 of which was for eggs. The mule, horse, cattle and hog shipments amounted in value to \$250,000. Surrounding Siloam Springs are from 7,000 to 8,000 acres of orchards and berry patches, which produce annually from 200 to 300 car loads of fruit, valued from \$175,000 to \$300,000. The year 1905 was not a good fruit year. About 165 car loads, principally apples, strawberries and blackberries were shipped. The bank balances of Siloam Springs amount to about \$500,000 and the annual business is estimated at about \$10,000,000.

The Siloam Springs Water Company, in charge of Mr. W. T. La Follette, manager, has been fully equipped for bottling the waters of the Springs and is now prepared to send these waters in any desired quantities to any point in the country. Shipment of these waters have been made for years to private families, hospitals and hotels in Texas, Louisiana, the Indian Territory, Eastern Arkansas and Northern Missouri and Kansas and the general public who have been using these waters will be glad to know that the facilities for its shipments have been vastly improved and that this water can now be had all the year round at any point where desired.

The country adjacent to the little city is being rapidly settled by fruit and berry growers, most of whom are content with small farms kept under a high state of tillage. It is a wide-awake, active bustling little city, full of fine schools and churches, a good place to spend a vacation, or to locate in permanently.



Nitrogen.

Nitrogen is a colorless, tasteless, inodorous, permanent gas, not differing much from atmospheric air, of which it is an ingredient and constitutes four-fifths of the bulk. It is not combustible and not respirable though not positively poisonous and is somewhat lighter than air. It is slightly soluble in water, although it unites with oxygen, hydrogen, chlorine, and many other substances, most of which compounds are of an extremely unstable nature. It is found combined with hydrogen in the form of ammonia, with soda and potash as nitrate and with oxygen, carbon, and sometimes sulphur and phosphorus as constituents of the solids and fluids of the animal body and also in many vegetable products.

Free, as nature made it, nitrogen is an inert, harmless good-natured element constituting the greater part of the air we breathe and without which neither animal or vegetable life could exist. The most common compounds are the soda and potash nitrate, saltpeter, forming part of the fertilizer in common use and obtained largely in India, Chili and Peru. A complete fertilizer is one which contains the three essential fertilizing constituents, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. In the fertilizers nitrogen exists as organic matter, as ammonia, and as nitrates. The nitrates furnish the most readily available forms of nitrogen for plant food. Some forms of nitrogen compounds are formed in the soil through the decay of organic matter, yet are not immediately available as fertilizers. They are made highly available through the processes carried on by the germs which bring about the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter and continue the work in the humus that has been formed.

Nitrogen-fixing bacteria must not be confused with nitrifying and de-nitrifying germs. The nitrifying germs attack humus or other vegetable matter in the soil and liberate nitrogen in a

form which can be used by growing plants. The nitrogen-fixing bacteria are able to assimilate and use for building up their own bodies the free nitrogen of the air. The plants grown on the farm can not use the free nitrogen of the air, although about 4-5 of the air is nitrogen. Some farm crops can, however, obtain this free nitrogen from the air with the assistance of a certain kind of bacteria. These bacteria live and multiply in the tissues of the plant roots, thus forming little knots or enlargements on the roots from the size of a pin head to that of a pea or larger. In return for the shelter afforded by the plant roots the bacteria provide nitrogen for the plant, and this nitrogen is not obtained from decaying vegetable matter but is taken directly from the abundant and cheap store found in the atmosphere. This kind of bacteria can live only in the roots of the class of plants known as legumes, such as alfalfa, red clover, vetch, peas, beans, etc., and which are grown nowadays for the specific purpose of extracting nitrogen from the air.

Chemically, nitrogen is almost inert and very difficult to bring in reaction with any other substance. It is, so to say, a confirmed bachelor and as a general proposition is opposed to a union of any kind, and where in nature a union has been made it is always willing to let go. The natural compounds are usually inert, though unstable.

The natural supply of nitrate is limited and it is thought that the nitrate deposits now being worked will be completely exhausted in twenty years. It has been the ambition of the chemists to utilize the nitrogen in the air for the manufacture of saltpeter and fertilizers. Only the development of electro-technology has made this possible. Prof. Birkeland of Christiania, Norway, by using the power of the Norwegian water falls for generating electricity, has succeeded in extracting two per cent of oxide of nitrogen

from air confined in an electric oven, by discharging a current of 5,000 volts of high tension electricity through it. By chemical manipulation of the product a saltpeter is made, which in point of cost can compete with that found in Chili. After two or three decades this will be the only source of supply from which the fertilizers of the soil and the saltpeter used in chemical and industrial operation can be drawn.

Now, when an unwilling and obstinate element is forced under a terrific strain to combine with another element, it is obvious that the two will not remain united if any opportunity presents itself for a separation. It explains in a measure the fearful force contained in nitrogenous explosives. If it requires 5,000 volts of electricity to imprison one molecule in a nitrogenous combination, there are contained in this combination the energy required to make it, for neither energy nor matter are ever lost in nature. Every molecule holds within itself

these 5,000 volts or rather their mechanical equivalent, and when the opportunity for separation is presented, the imprisoned nitrogen instantly occupies the spaces in the universe it is entitled to as a gas. As the oxygen is also imprisoned in the combination it also demands the room for expansion it is entitled to as a gas. Every thing opposing their expansion is demolished, and the greater the number of molecules involved, the greater the ratio of destruction. As a combination of nitrogen with another element can be made only with the expenditure of tremendous energy, it is obvious that the combination itself is extremely unstable and that a slight jar or a spark is sufficient for its instantaneous decomposition.

So we have in nitrogen a harmless beneficent gas absolutely essential to our existence, and also under certain chemical conditions the active agent of the most destructive explosives known to man.

Inter-Denominational Young People's Missionary Conference of the Southwest,

SILOAM SPRINGS, ARK., AUGUST 10-15, 1906.

Convention Southwestern Pastors and Sunday School Superintendents,

SILOAM SPRINGS, ARK., AUGUST 16-20, 1906.

For above occasion round-trip excursion rates of one fare plus 50 cents to Siloam Springs and return have been authorized from all points in Arkansas, Indian Territory, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Dates of sale: August 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16.

Final limit: August 31, 1906.

Extension of limit: The return limit of these excursion tickets will be extended to thirty days after date of sale (Summer Tourist Limit) or ninety days after date of sale (All Year Tourist Limit) upon payment of the difference between the rate originally paid and the round-trip Summer Tour-

ist or All Year Tourist Rate as the case may be, from starting point to Siloam Springs.

Stopovers at Siloam Springs.

Stopover of not to exceed ten days at Siloam Springs en route will be allowed on all one way first-class tickets sold to points beyond Siloam Springs.

On round-trip tickets, stopovers on both going and return trip within final limit will be allowed a Siloam Spring.

For further information and literature descriptive of Siloam Springs or about above conventions write to

S. G. WARNER,
G. P. & T. A., K. C. S. Ry.
Kansas City, Mo.

Coming Into Her Own at Last.

Sulphur Springs, Arkansas.

The many hundreds of summer visitors who have come to Sulphur Springs year after year attracted by the natural beauties of the place, have drunk sulphur water from the fountains in the park and buttermilk from the pitchers in the hotels, have bathed in Butler Creek, or dozed in the hammocks under the trees, and will go there again to do similar things this year, will no doubt be glad to learn that the spirit of improvement has at last found its way into this grand old health and pleasure resort.

The musty, old phantoms of titles in litigation and the goblins of the dreary court room, which caused the moss to grow on the roofs of the cottages, the

springs to fill up with mud and the park to grow up in weeds have been brushed into oblivion, never to return. Sulphur Springs is no longer the shuttlecock which the strenuous limbs of the law could bat about at pleasure. It is done with the lawyers and the courts, and though somewhat disfigured by neglect, while the legal lights were splitting hairs, is still in the ring. There is nothing in the way now to prevent the growth and development of this, one of the oldest and most delightful resorts of the great picturesque Ozark region.

The town property, held in limbo for years, is now accessible to whosoever may desire to purchase and settle there.



Sulphur Springs Lake.

The townsite, the park, the springs, the hotels, cottages, etc., are now undergoing a thorough process of renovation. The spirit of improvement has called to its aid the man with the spade, the stonemason, the road maker, the man with the hammer and the saw, and the man with the pot of pigment and the brush. Yea, they have invaded the land, and what they won't do to Sulphur Springs in the State of Arkansas, will not be worth recording.

All the streets in town are being graded and curbed, and the cottages in the park will be renovated, each covered with a new roof and several coats of paint. The great park will have a new fence, and its weedy wilderness converted into a fine shaded lawn, with none in Arkansas to equal it. The several hotels will be renovated from top to bottom and be brought up to date, and even the cooks will wear an additional smile on their countenances during

the summer, something which will also be expected from the hotel manager, as a matter of course.

The nest of sulphur springs in the park is being thoroughly cleaned out. The old cement well surrounding each will be entirely removed and, after the underground channels have been thoroughly cleaned, will be renewed. Each spring will be more easy of access than heretofore and clearer, cleaner and purer than ever before. The spring-houses will be rebuilt and the lilly pond cleaned out and replanted. All the old eyesores in the park will be eliminated, and the walks properly marked out and well gravelled.

The rock dam across Butler Creek, which once formed a beautiful lake, and then collapsed is now being rebuilt, and all the silt accumulated under it is being removed to make way for a solid sheet of water-fall running over the crest of the dam. Behind the dam will be the lake, as in years gone by, clear as crystal, over half a mile in length, big and deep enough to admit of boating and sailing, and shallow enough in places to make bathing and swimming an absolutely safe pleasure. Bridges will be built across the stream where necessary, and the lake will be stocked with the finest of game fish. The roads leading to the adjacent country will be graded and made navigable for buggies, bicycles, automobiles, donkeyriders and others too tired or too lazy to walk, in order to get up an appetite. The beautiful work that nature has done for Sulphur Springs will not be interfered with, but man's handiwork in the same vicinity can stand a lot of improving. The good people of Sulphur Springs have taken a long deep breath of relief and an ex-

tra drink of sulphurated hydrogen with the rest of the analysis thrown in, and are getting very busy, and as there is room for many more, they want some from afar to come and help them build the finest health and pleasure resort in the Ozarks.

The weary wanderer who returns next summer to revisit his old haunts, will see things, a new life in an old town and some things won't be there. The signs of decay will be missing and he will feel a little bit sorry that that the main subject of conversation "as to what could be done with this beautiful place, if it got into the right hands" has become somewhat stale, but he will be recompensed in other ways.

The roofs on the cottages won't leak any more, and lots of new ones will be built so that there need be no worry about getting accommodations, and beyond this is the guessing contest as to where the big new hotel is to be built and when it will happen and whether or not it will be steam heated and have electric lights, etc. There will be a lake and some fish where there were none before; the park will be as shady as ever and be free from weeds, and the town cow and the ever-hungry porker will camp elsewhere during the summer months, so that the flower garden in town can get a chance to show itself to an unsuspecting public.

If anything has been forgotten in this enumeration of improvements, write for information to E. Bee Guthrey, who is doing some of these things, and to John P. Paul, who looks after the welfare of the incoming traveler and bids him farewell when he goes. Both live at Sulphur Springs, Ark.

The Maritime Business of Port Arthur, Texas.

A little over a decade back, as time is counted, there was a cattle pasture bordering a shallow lake which was distant from deep water in the Gulf of Mexico about ten miles. Connecting this lake with the gulf was a deep channel known as Sabine Pass and at the

upper end of the lake were two navigable rivers, the Neches and the Sabine. Ships of moderate draught could enter the channel to receive lumber and cotton brought to the village of Sabine in light draught boats from the rivers above. A great railway was

building southwest from Kansas City. It needed a deep sea terminus, and to get it would have to turn either to the east or the west to Galveston or to New Orleans. The harbor of Sabine village was not considered safe where great shipping interests were involved. The new railroad, the Kansas City Southern, was built through a new, undeveloped, but marvelously rich country, a distance of 787 miles, within ten miles of the deep water of the gulf and then stopped.

It was found more expedient and safer in every way to bring the gulf to the railway terminus and build a new harbor, than to carry the railway to the more exposed village on the channel, and so it came about that a deep water seaport was laid out ten miles inland in a quondam cow pasture bordering on a shallow lake. At this junction of rail and water communication, the city of Port Arthur was located and there was established the finest and safest harbor on the entire Gulf coast.

The men who built the railroad also extended the deep water inland ten miles. The wisdom of locating the harbor where it is has since then been demonstrated more than once. Three miles of Sabine Pass were already navigable. The Port Arthur Canal and Dock Company maintains and operates the ship canal, seven miles in length extending from Port Arthur to deep water in the Sabine Pass. This canal and harbor at Port Arthur have twenty-five feet of water at mean low tide and constitute the deepest inland canal or artificial water way in the United States. At its terminals are great docks, wharves, ware houses, lumber sheds and grain elevators, with a capacity of 500,000 bushels, also yards and trackage with capacity for one thousand freight cars. These facilities are being constantly enlarged, improved and added to as required by the developments of Port Arthur's seaboard traffic. These terminal yard and dock facilities are now being used on the two railways which reach Port Arthur and are capable of indefinite extension.

Several steam ship lines maintain regular connections with the Kansas City Southern Railway and new lines

are being added from time to time. The Port Arthur, Texas, Trans-Atlantic Line of Steamers have regular sailings to European and British ports. The Shell Transport Company's steamers load regularly at Port Arthur with cargoes for foreign countries. In addition to these are the regular lines of oil steamers of the Standard Oil Co., the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Co., and the Texas Company.

The Mexican-American S. S. Company operates a regular line of freight and passenger steamers to Mexican ports, making weekly sailings from Port Arthur. A second line of Gulf port steamers will probably be put in service during the present year.

In addition to the regular lines a large number of tramp steamers and chartered vessels visit the harbor, loading at this port by lumber exporters, who make shipments in entire ship loads.

The growth of Port Arthur as a shipping point is shown in the Custom House reports covering the period of time between 1900 and 1904—and relating to exports only.

The value of exported goods shipped in 1900 was \$2,835,283.00 which was increased in 1904, to \$15,317,736.86.

No. of Net Register			
Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Valuation.
1900	21	36,734	\$ 2,835,283.00
1901	45	51,278	2,598,478.20
1902	276	262,974	4,074,892.00
1903	417	564,032	11,708,414.75
1904	387	647,555	15,317,736.86

These official statistics show better than words can express the stability of Port Arthur's growth and development and indicate most clearly what the future possibilities of this harbor are.

Port Arthur's ocean traffic has been steadily increasing each year and in 1904 reached a value of \$15,000,000 in exports alone. A recently printed report of the harbor masters give the quantities exported during 1905, though the values are not stated.

From this report it appears that 425 vessels with a net tonnage of 686,169 tons loaded and cleared at Port Arthur during 1905. Of these 123 vessels with a net tonnage of 204,189 tons were bound for foreign ports, 302 vessels

with a net tonnage of 481,980 tons engaged in coastwise traffic.

The exports to foreign ports consisted of 51,361,411 gallons of crude and refined oils including all grades of oils; hardware and machinery aggregating 244,947 pounds; gasoline and naptha 536 gallons; milled rice 96,500 pounds and bran, 4,877 sacks; canned meats, 285,000 pounds; ginned cotton, 109,080 bales; cotton seed meal, 9,805,091 pounds and cotton seed oil, 77,600 gallons; corn, 553,213 bushels; wheat, 60,883 bushels, and flour, 374,585 pounds; asphalt, 1,479 barrels; bottles, 300 gross; chemicals, 2 barrels; jute bags, 122 bales; boots and shoes, 380 pairs; logs, 79,546 cubic feet; 1,559,805 staves; 3,327 packages of handles; 231 telegraph poles; 50,000 shingles; lumber, 41,402,211 superficial feet; oak lumber, 72,000 superficial feet; timber, 2,355,865 feet.

The coastwise shipments included 238,332,024 gallons of crude and refined oils in their various forms; 1,612,494 gallons of gasoline and naptha; 786 tons of rice and rice productions; 71,473 gallons of asphalt; 6,145 barrels, wood and iron; 9,999,889 superficial feet of lumber and 879,751 feet of timber; 100 barrels of sulphate of aluminum and 150 cases of cans.

The total export both foreign and coastwise of forest products was logs, 79,546 feet; staves, 1,559,805; handles, packages, 3,327; lumber, superficial feet, 51,402,100; telegraph poles, 231; timber, feet, 3,235,616; oak lumber, superficial feet, 72,000; shingles, 50,000; oils, crude and refined of various brands, 289,693,435 gallons; gasoline and naptha, 1,613,000 gallons; rice and rice productions, 1,078 tons; corn and wheat 614,016 bushels; flour, 187¼ tons; cotton, 109,080 bales, cotton seed meal, 4,902 tons; cotton seed oil, 77,600 gallons, plus miscellaneous smaller shipments enumerated above.

Port Arthur has made a splendid growth during the year 1905. The increase in population was 1,200 and during the year there were erected 75 new dwellings costing \$80,000, 10 new business buildings costing \$50,000, 1 public building costing \$5,000, a high school and manual training school costing \$75,000, two new churches costing \$7,500, an opera house, a pleasure pier costing \$15,000, an electric street car line, 7 miles of new sewerage costing \$50,000, a mile of new street and sidewalks, etc. The daily bank deposits amounted to \$308,532 and the monthly payroll to \$96,000.

The growth of Port Arthur in the preceding year 1904 was also large. Over one thousand people settled in the city and its immediate suburbs within the year. Fifty dwellings costing \$50,000, ten business buildings costing \$50,000, the churches and a water works system, costing \$150,000 were constructed. The municipal work carried on at the same time consisted of permanent sidewalks and curbing costing \$36,472, permanent shell paving costing \$38,417 and permanent walks costing \$5,887—total \$80,777.14. There were added to the municipal assets a new jail and office buildings and fire apparatus, etc., costing in the aggregate \$13,000.

A city of say 5,500 people, which can add 1,000 people per annum to its population and expend in two years \$531,277 for public and private buildings, street improvements, etc., might be considered in a prosperous condition. Port Arthur does not depend exclusively on its maritime business. It is the milling point for a vast rice growing industry, has within its limits the greatest oil refineries in the world and is the point of export for an enormous lumber industry. It is just beginning to do business and the country behind this port is capable of almost indefinite development.



Submarine Logging.

There was a time, not so very long ago, when the loss of the logs which sank to the bottom of the rivers cut no figure in the operations of the lumber industry. Natural timber was about the cheapest thing on earth and it was taken as a matter of course that a certain percentage of the logs floating down the streams would become water logged and sink to the bottom. They were not worth the trouble of trying to recover them. This applies more particularly to the great pineries of Michigan, etc., where timber was very abundant, and in the course of half a century the bottom of every logging stream became well paved with good saw timber. The same process took place in the streams of the southern pineries extending from Florida to Texas, and so it has come to pass that there is now accumulated in these streams a vast quantity of timber which is worth raising and running through the mills.

Along the Atlantic coast submerged swamp timber has been recovered for a number of years but "submarine logging" is of comparatively recent origin. More or less of it is now being done on the Menominee, Brule and Manistee rivers in Michigan, and quite recently arrangements have been made to clear the Sabine River between Texas and Louisiana of its accumulated saw logs.

In Michigan the equipment for lifting consists of a number of flat bottomed scows on which lifting cranes and small engines are placed for the purpose of hoisting timber from the bottom of the stream. When the logs are lifted, they are cross-piled on the banks and are allowed to dry until in condition to be again put into the water and floated down the river to the mills. After a log has been submerged for a number of years the water works its way between the bark and the wood. The wood remains sound but the bark is subject more or less to decay. What bark remains is

removed and in about three months the logs are dry enough to float again. Nearly every river in Michigan, where lumbering operations have been carried on, contains great numbers of logs. For a distance of nearly 200 miles the Manistee River is packed with sunken pine, elm, cherry, oak maple and other kinds of timber, some of the logs being submerged for over forty years.

In the Sabine River on the Texas border, it is estimated that within a stretch of one hundred miles there are between 150,000,000 to 225,000,000 feet of sunken long leaf yellow pine timber, enough to keep one of the large mills of this section in operation about eight years. Contracts have been recently closed for cleaning up one hundred miles of this river. When the river is at its lowest ebb in mid-summer one can walk for miles upon a solid floor of saw logs, which have sunk during their progress from the trams to the mills and in places there are great jams, fifteen to twenty feet in height and hundreds of yards in length, containing thousands of feet of the finest kind of yellow pine timber left by the receding waters of the stream. Practically all of this timber is water logged and there is but one way in which it can be gotten to the mills. That is by hauling it out on the banks or sand bars and stripping the bark off the logs. The hot mid-summer sun will thoroughly dry it out in from thirty to forty days and each log will then become, instead of a "sinker," a "high floater" and ride on the highest crest of the first "rise" straight into the booms of the mills at Orange. The old way of handling this timber was to take raising boats up the river and raise the sunken logs one at a time. As a sinker was brought to the surface it was placed between two high floaters and by means of "dog chains" securely fastened to them and turned loose to find its way to the

mill. There were two serious objections to this method—it was slow and costly and the sinker often worked loose from its companions in jams or by coming in contact with “dead heads” and the work of raising it was lost. Recently the idea of using the steam skidder principle in handling the sinkers was tried successfully on a small scale and this is the manner in which the work will be handled. A fourteen horse power skidding machine with double drum hoisting engines will be mounted on a barge which, when loaded with its machinery and supplies, will draw but ten inches of water. This vessel will be taken to the head of the Narrows and from there begin its work of raising the sunken logs propelling itself up the river by its own cables. The manner of handling the timber is unique and interesting. The barge is anchored in midstream. The tackle is run out to the trees on either bank and the long wire cables, to which are attached great log tongs, are put into operation. One line draws the cable, to which are attached the tongs, out into the stream. An operator deftly drops the tongs over a sunken log which he has located with a spike pole, the engine starts up, the tongs fasten in the log and it is drawn up on the bank or out onto a sand bar if the boat is near one. Here another workman peels the soggy bark from the log while another scales and brands the stick with the brand of the raising crew. This operation is repeated until all the logs within a radius of several hundred feet of the boat have been “yarded” on the high ground. The boat then moves to another location

and the yarded logs are left to dry out, when they will float out to the mills on the first high water. Such a boat will raise 25,000 to 30,000 feet of sunken timber per day and three of these boats will be operated, making their capacity per day something over 75,000 feet. There are thousands of logs on the banks of the river and stranded in the bayous and gullies which empty into it and under the contract the same price for pulling these logs into the bed of the stream will be paid as for raising the sinker. The price paid is \$3.50 per thousand feet log measure and a handsome profit is possible at this price with the improved machinery the contractors will use. At the rate of 75,000 feet per day it will require ten years’ work to clean out the stretch of river mentioned. An idea of the amount of timber which is sunken or stranded in this stretch of river can be gained when it is known that the Cow Creek Tram Company, one of the dozen or more concerns which formerly dumped their timber into the Sabine, lost by sinkage in eight years of operation 11,000,000 feet of timber. The same loss was experienced in proportion to their capacity by every other tram on the river, and it is estimated by conservative timbermen that there are anywhere from 150,000,000 to 225,000,000 feet of timber aground in this 100 miles stretch of river. In the few years in which the Kirby Lumber Company operated its Klondike and Bancroft trams on the Sabine it is said to have lost by sinkage in this part of the river between six and eight million feet.

The Greatest Industrial County in the United States

Jasper County, Missouri—Surplus production 1905—value \$23,468,877—Lead and Zinc ores \$11,000,000—Limestone Quarry Products 1,500 Cars.

Industrially speaking, Southwest Missouri contains the first County of America. This statement, heralded abroad in a spirit of pride and security,

is founded on figures. The annual production of Jasper County exceeds that of any other rural county in the United States. Besides supporting a population, which, in 1900, was given at 84,018, and which in the past five years has grown to fully 100,000, its surplus production for last year, according to

figures compiled at Jefferson City by the State Labor Bureau, was valued at \$23,468,877.02. And be it known that Jasper is a rural county—comprised in the physical main of farms, in themselves representing, in 1905, a surplus production of more than that of the average among those counties famous for agricultural resources.

Jasper County, Missouri, is known chiefly for being the greatest zinc-mining district in the world. The mines here last year produced \$10,000,000 worth of jack and lead ore. For refining, it has been found cheaper in the past to haul the ore to the fuel, and hence a large portion of the surplus properly creditable to Jasper County has been included elsewhere. However, natural gas has made its way into the main towns recently, and it remains but a question of time until smelters will be located in this district. The geographical and production center of the mining district is Webb City, half way between Carthage the county seat, and Joplin, the fourth largest city in Missouri.

A second production of Jasper County which has resulted in a foreign acquaintance is the limestone at Carthage. Ten quarries operate along the bluffs of Spring River within two miles of the county seat, and last year 1,500 carloads of sawed stone were shipped.

In the southeast corner of Jasper County horticulture is a heavy asset. Centering at Reeds and at Sarcoxie are extensive acreages of strawberries and small fruits of other kinds. The northern half of the county is devoted very largely to wheat growing, and with the influx of a stock-loving class of farmers within the past three years, and especially since the St. Louis Exposition stock-raising is beginning to receive attention. The first annual sale of thoroughbred cattle was held in Carthage last October.

It is evident from the foregoing that the wonderful development of Jasper County is based primarily upon its surpassing natural resources. There is, however, another element for growth, which is little less substantial—the Southwest Missouri spirit.

Five great railroad systems enter this county, and one interurban electric

system. From local towns as centers these systems are gradually extending new divisions. Why? Some time this month the Missouri Pacific will complete its new White River division from Carthage southeast, completing a route direct from Topeka, Kas., to Memphis and the Gulf. This road was built after the Missouri Pacific built its Asbury branch from Carthage northwest to Asbury, connecting this city on a direct line with Topeka. The Frisco has also built a veritable network of railways through this county.

The best demonstration of Southwest Missouri spirit was an incident which occurred in Carthage during February, 1906. With the development of the Alba mining district, northwest of Carthage, came the demand for rapid transit between that town and the county seat. Webb City induced the Southwest Missouri Railroad to build between that town and Alba. The line will be completed in March. Carthage failing to secure similar results through its Commercial Club, called for a mass meeting of citizens. It was held at the Elks' Club one evening, where very quietly \$200,000 was pledged by local men to build the road in case the Missouri Pacific could not be induced to put on motor cars. The matter will be disposed of at a later meeting of the Commercial Club.

Jasper County is experiencing the greatest growth of its history. It is a steady growth. Mine product is at the highest point; new mines are developing. Labor of all kinds is in great demand, and wages run from \$1.75 for common labor to \$4.50 in the mines.

Carthage, situated at the center of Jasper County, is the residence town of the county. It enjoys the distinction of having, according to the National Bureau of Vital Statistics, the lowest death rate of any city in the United States, and is known as one of the most beautiful towns in the West. The town has just completed a new high school building at a cost of \$100,000. It is entirely of Carthage white limestone. The Jasper County court house at Carthage cost \$150,000, and is of the same material. Speaking for its volume of business up to within a year ago the clearings of its four banks exceeded

that of any city in Southwest Missouri, and at present it is enjoying a friendly fight with Joplin for first place. Its population in 1900 was 9,416; it is now conservatively estimated at 12,000.

A good idea of the prosperity of Joplin may be obtained from the following figures, which do not include men employed in the mines:

Number of establishments in 1905, 56; in 1900, 45. Increase, per cent, 24.4.

Capital in 1905, \$2,524,177; in 1900, \$1,267,969. Increase, per cent, 99.1.

Salaried officials and clerks, 1905, 100; in 1900, 50. Increase, per cent, 100.

Salaries, 1905, \$119,103; in 1900, \$52,608. Increase, per cent, 126.

Wage earners and wages, 1905, 681; in 1900, 682. Loss, 1 per cent.

Wages, 1905, \$386,384; in 1900, \$380,070. Increase, per cent, 1.7.

Miscellaneous expenses in 1905, \$119,097; in 1900, \$87,504. Increase, per cent, 36.1.

Cost of material used in 1905, \$1,960,367; in 1900, \$1,556,181. Increase, per cent, 26.

Value of product in 1905, \$3,006,203; in 1900, \$2,325,218. Increase, per cent, 29.

Industrial Notes.

Anderson, Mo.—The value of surplus products shipped from McDonald county during 1904 is reported at \$494,121.83, showing an increase of \$218,240 over 1903. Among the shipments were 672,000 pounds of flour, 240,000 pounds ship stuff, 9,771 barrels of apples, 756,000 feet hardwood lumber, 63,000 feet walnut logs, 310,000 feet logs, 194,325 railroad ties, fence and mine posts, 1,036,187 pounds of poultry, 746,610 dozens of eggs, 5,534 crates of berries, 109,640 pounds of fresh and dried fruits, and 40,000 pounds of vegetables.

Beaumont, Tex.—The Central Oil Refinery at Port Neches will be started up and running within a few weeks. Repairs and changes in the plant will cost \$150,000. Another pipe line will be built from Nederland to Port Neches, and two new lines from Port Neches to Port Arthur. Experiments made with rice polish, one of the by-products of the rice mills, have demonstrated that it can be converted into the finest starch. A company is to be formed for manufacturing starch at either New Orleans, Beaumont, Houston or Crowley.

Beaumont, Tex.—Several Japanese living in Orange county, Tex., about sixteen miles from Beaumont, have formed a company to operate a silk factory. Some 50,000 silk worms and the necessary land covered with mulberry trees have already been secured. It is expected that the first products of the silk farm and factory will be ready for the market by July or August, 1906.

Beaumont, Tex.—The Beaumont Irrigation Company are having surveys made with a view to reclaim a tract of 60,000 acres of marsh lands, which when drained will be suitable for rice culture.

Beaumont, Tex.—The oil pipeline from Jennings, La., to Beaumont, Texas, a distance of 85 miles, is now under construction. The material for it was ordered some time ago.

Beaumont, Tex.—The daily bank balances amount to \$3,721,727, which, divided among the population would give a per capita wealth of \$186.03 to each man, woman and child in the city.

DeQueen, Ark.—The DeQueen & Eastern Railway has completed its new steel bridge across Saline River and in a few days will be running to Dierks, their new town in Howard county.

De Ridder, La.—The King-Ryder Lumber Co. are clearing a tract of land at Bon Ami for the purpose of establishing an experimental farm on their cut over lands.

De Ridder, La.—The wool shipments from DeRidder during the year 1905, amounted to 150,000 pounds. The average price obtained was 28 cents per pound.

Fort Smith, Ark.—The capital stock of the Fort Smith Hardwood Company has been increased from \$80,000 to \$100,000. The name was changed to the Lane-White Lumber Co.

Fort Smith, Ark.—The Iowa Iron Works, Wm. Kirchman, president, will move their plant from Centerville, Iowa, to Fort Smith within a short time. Eighteen families will come with the plant and permanent employment will be provided for fifty people.

Fort Smith, Ark.—The real estate necessary for the new hotel has been purchased at a cost of \$57,000. The building will cost \$300,000 more. When completed, it will be one of the finest hotels in the state.

Fort Smith, Ark.—On January 1, there were under construction in Fort Smith fifteen dwellings, costing in the aggregate \$54,000.

Gentry, Ark.—The first annual report of the Gentry Fruit Shippers Union, having 57 members and organized in February, 1905, shows that the Union handled 4,760 crates of strawberries, for which \$5,178.57 were obtained, or \$1.08 $\frac{3}{4}$ per crate; 1,173 crates of raspberries, blackberries and dewberries, for which \$1,517.38, or \$1.34 per crate were

obtained. The total receipts were \$6,695.95. There are several similar organizations at Gentry.

Joplin, Mo.—Both the Southwest Machinery Co. and the Sedgewick Furniture Co. have purchased additional land for the enlargement of their plants.

The Joplin Road Commission has in regular use 250 miles of good roads and turnpikes, all well graded and graveled, and reaching all points in Jasper county. This road improvement work has been kept up continuously for nine years and has cost \$325,000, exclusive of the work done in the towns and cities.

That Joplin has a sweet tooth is amply demonstrated in the fact that during 1905 there were manufactured 21,600 gallons of ice cream which was sold for \$41,200.

Joplin, Mo.—A new overall factory, operating twenty-five machines, is now in course of construction. A miners' home is to be erected on the suburban electric line near Joplin at an early date. Forty acres of land and donations of \$20,000 have already been secured for this purpose. The Leggett Pump Company has been recently organized and will erect a manufacturing plant in Joplin.

Joplin, Mo.—Land for the location of the Keller Wagon Factory has been acquired and the construction of the works is to be begun at an early day. Eighty acres of the land will be platted into village lots for houses for the employees.

Joplin, Mo.—The new Joplin hotel will have a front of 125 feet on Main street and 110 feet on Fourth street. Its capacity will be 200 rooms, and it will be a steel and stone structure eight stories high. Including the land the cost will exceed \$500,000.

The Eureka Safety Powder Company; capital, \$100,000, has been incorporated for the manufacture of a compound which will deprive gasoline of its explosive quality.

Joplin, Mo.—It is now definitely settled that the Keller Wagon Factory will build a plant in Joplin and work will begin at once.

Joplin, Mo.—The Missouri-Wisconsin Development Co. of Joplin, capital stock \$100,000, has been incorporated.

Lake Charles, La.—The people of this city have raised a large fund for building a city sanitarium and hospital. A final decision as to size and location is soon to be determined. At the meeting of the banks of Lake Charles during the first week in January it was ascertained that the combined deposits in the banks exceeds \$2,600,000.

The charter of the Hampton Logging & Lumber Co., capital, \$25,000, has been recently filed. The company will operate the Toomey Mill at Kearney's Spur, La.

A company is now being formed to establish a game preserve of 30,000 acres convenient to Lake Charles.

The total tax collections of Calcasieu Parish for 1905 amounted to \$287,752. The share going to the parish will clear it entirely from debt and leave a handsome surplus. Poll taxes were paid by 4,136 persons, an increase of 90 for the year.

Lake Charles, La.—The Majestic Hotel, covering 116x243 feet of ground, a four-

story structure of Colonial type and one of the finest hotels in Louisiana, was opened for business February 1, 1906. The hotel has 260 feet of verandas, an electric plant, is team heated, has 109 bed rooms, 90 with bath, all well furnished and open to sunlight, has electric elevators and telephone service. It also has an artesian well for its exclusive use. Construction was begun in May, 1904, and its cost to completion was over \$200,000.

Lake Charles, La.—The Strange Lumber Co. have filed articles of incorporation; capital, \$200,000. The new company will erect a saw mill at Singer, La., near which point it has 10,000 acres of pine timber land.

Lake Charles, La.—The total population of Lake Charles and immediate suburbs, according to the count just completed is 3,398. In 1880 the population was 800; in 1890, 3,260; in 1900, 6,814; school census of 1902, 9,875.

Lake Charles, La.—Mr. J. George Fredericks has closed a contract for machinery to manufacture cement building stone. The plant is to open up as soon as the machinery can be installed.

Mansfield, La.—An ice factory is much needed in Mansfield. Population, 3,000; railway junction, large sawmill, cotton seed oil mill, handling about 18,000 bales; large brick plant, etc. The citizens will consider a proposition to take stock in an enterprise of this kind. Address W. E. Singleton, Mansfield, La.

Marble City, I. T.—The Southern Marble Company now have all their machinery installed and are making regular shipments of rough and sawed marble. Two large stone quarrying companies from Carthage, Mo., have recently acquired large holdings and are now installing machinery.

Mena, Ark.—The county assessor's report for 1905 shows real estate values amounting to \$1,485,580, and personal property valued at \$20,037; horses and mules valued at \$111,269; cattle valued at \$103,490; mules and asses valued at \$87,248; sheep and hogs valued at \$5,144; railroad property valued at \$1,075; miscellaneous property valued at \$559,852.

The first annual meeting of the Immigration agents of the Kansas City Southern Railway took place in Mena on January 12, fifty-two agents from points along the line being in attendance. The meeting was a profitable one for all concerned and the results of its deliberations will aid greatly in promoting the settlement of the country along the line of the Kansas City Southern Railway.

Mena, Ark.—The Consolidated Slate & Manufacturing Company of Des Moines, Ia., after an examination of their properties have decided to open up their quarries in the Wehnt Mountains by April 1, 1906.

Necsho, Mo.—The value of the surplus products shipped from Newton county in 1904 is reported at \$1,996,125.14, showing an increase of \$814,144.33 over the preceding year. The shipments of all kinds from the State of Missouri are valued at \$244,156,895.52, showing an increase of \$65,010,424 over those of the preceding year.

Pittsburg, Kan.—The National Novelty Corporation of New York is negotiating with the Commercial Club for a factory site. If satisfactory arrangements are made the company will invest \$100,000. Similar negotiations are pending with the Plating Bros. Boiler Works of Kalamazoo, Mich., who are seeking a location for a \$50,000 factory. The Portland Tile & Hollow Brick Walls Co., of Portland, Ind., is also in search of a location at or near Pittsburg shale beds. They propose to put up a large plant if the proper location can be found. The Southwest Missouri Electric Railway Company has received the first shipment of steel for its extension from Webb City to Alba and Neck City.

Pittsburg, Kan.—The Pittsburg City Library has now about 7,000 volumes. Over 40,000 volumes were issued to borrowers during the past year. The Cockerill Zinc Smelter and the Lanyon Zinc Smelter have been greatly enlarged and the output of spelter for 1906 will be greater than in any preceding year.

Pittsburg, Kan.—The Mineral Cities Electric Railway Company will within a month begin construction on a new electric line from Columbus, Kan., via Mineral and Cherokee to Pittsburg, Kan. Another line is to run from Chanute and Parsons to Columbus, Kan., and Joplin, Mo.

Pittsburg, Kan.—The capital of the Pittsburg Railway & Light Co. has been largely increased. A number of extensions to the electric railway line are in contemplation.

Pittsburg, Kan.—The town of Frontenac, adjacent to Pittsburg, is now putting in a new waterworks system.

Port Arthur, Tex.—Congressman M. C. Brooks of the Second Texas District has introduced a bill in Congress providing for the establishment of a new customs district, with Port Arthur named as port of entry. Another bill has been introduced by him appropriating \$500,000 for deepening the channel and extending the jetties at Sabine Pass.

The Oil Investors' Journal for January contains table of oil shipments made during 1905. The total maritime shipments by way of Port Arthur amounted to 7,343,477 barrels of oil, refined and crude. The crude oil amounted to 4,362,640 barrels, and the refined to 2,380,837 barrels. Of the refined oil shipped by water, 74 per cent was produced at Port Arthur. The total rail shipments of crude oil from Texas points amounted to 7,881,550 and from the Louisiana fields 7,354,614 barrels. The shipments from Sabine, of all grades, amounted to 3,239,319 barrels.

Port Arthur, Tex.—The Basin Supply Company, capital \$20,000, has been organized for the purpose of supplying ships that enter this port with coal. About 2,000 tons of coal will be kept on hand constantly, and larger supplies as soon as the coal chutes are built.

Among the improvements mapped out for the year 1906 are: The commencement of work on a \$100,000 hotel; doubling the refining capacity of the Texas Company's oil

plant; the construction of the new Manual Training High School; the extension of deep water canal to a point north of the city limits, and the passage by Congress of a bill making Port Arthur a port of entry.

Port Arthur, Tex.—The surveys and arrangements for right of way for the new canal connecting Beaumont and Orange, Tex., with Port Arthur have been completed and construction is to begin immediately. The ship canal from Sulphur, La., to the Sabine River is now under construction and a fleet of barges to carry sulphur to Port Arthur is now being built.

Some of the rice planters in Texas and Louisiana have earned very large profits from the crop of 1905. John Thomas earned \$5,885 from 143 acres, Dave Thomas \$4,600 from 165 acres, W. F. Tiede \$5,600 from 140 acres, John Deiner \$8,800 from 154 acres, W. B. Gebbert \$8,876 from 163 acres, C. A. Austin, Welsh, La., rent on 400 acres, \$4,500; N. S. Craig, rent on 100 acres, \$849; Wilkinson & Son \$5,000 from 400 acres, Cary & Sons \$24,000 from 600 acres, Lacasine Plantation \$56,000 from 18,000 acres, Maryville Plantation, \$71,250 from 2,500 acres. Most of these were irrigated from deep wells; the larger plantations from canals.

Port Arthur, Tex.—The Park Bank & Trust Company, capital \$100,000, have opened up for business. It is reported that the Texas Oil Refinery will greatly enlarge their plant during the present year, 1906. The improvements are estimated to cost about \$1,000,000.

Port Arthur, Tex.—The Rodgers Opera House, 72x94 feet in area, has been successfully moved from Sour Lake to this city, and several fine plays have since been attended by very large audiences.

Port Arthur, Tex.—Mr. G. B. Bryde of Galveston, Tex., will put in commission a line of steamers to operate between Port Arthur, Galveston and all ports in Mexico.

Poteau, I. T.—The Milam Lumber Co. has secured the necessary grounds for a new mill and will begin construction without delay.

Shreveport, La.—The old Phoenix Hotel is to be entirely rebuilt and have a four-story addition, modern and fireproof, containing 150 rooms. The addition will cost \$150,000. The hotel will be under a new management.

Shreveport, La.—A strong flowing gas well has been recently brought in at Cross Lake, distant three miles from here.

Texarkana, Tex.—The citizens of Texarkana have formed a "50,000" club and wish to advise investors and business men that there are good openings in Texarkana for flour mills, canning factories, pickling and preserving works, creameries, sash, door and blind factories, structural iron foundry, knitting mills, cotton mills, woolen mills, tanneries, shoe and leather factories, box and crate factories, brass foundry, carriage and wagon factory, pressed brick works, excelsior mills, bottling works, etc.

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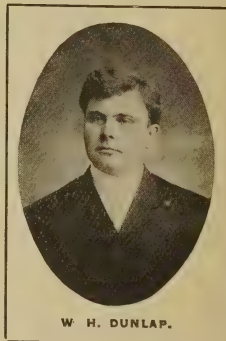
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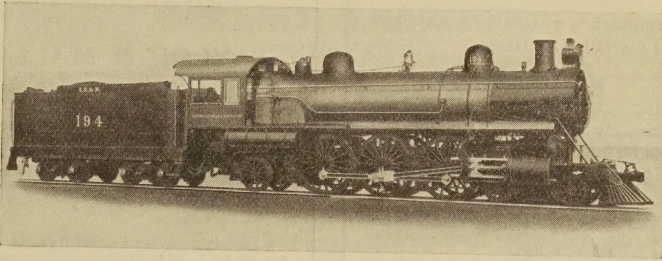
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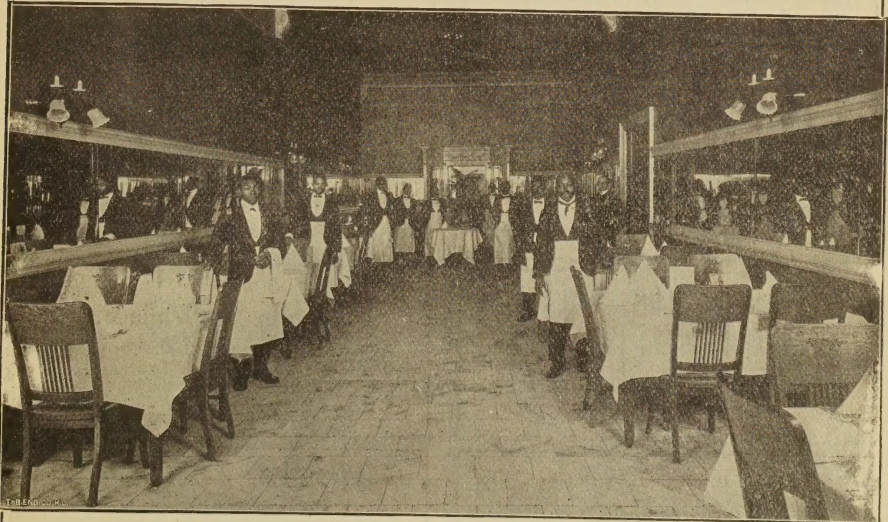
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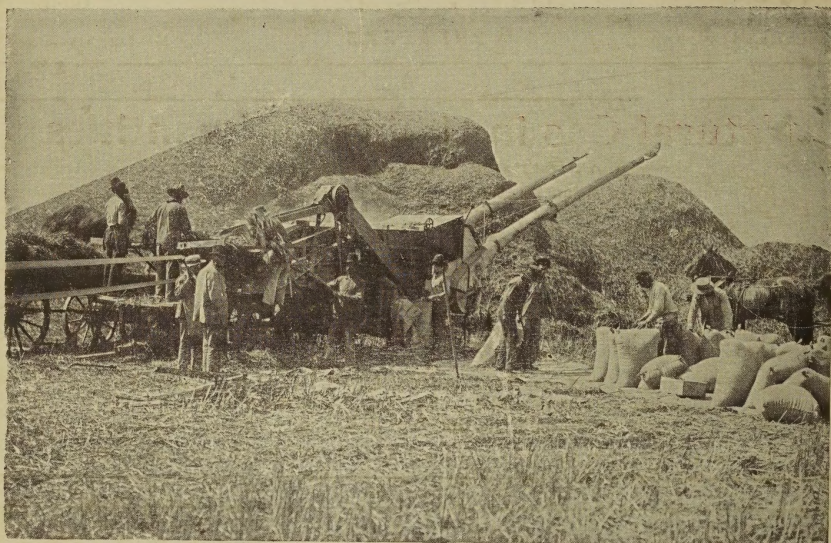


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